INORGANIC MATERIALS SCIENCES MINERALS

Determination of quartz content in a mineral

INTRODUCTION

In some industrial activities, the determination of quartz content may be of great importance. It is the case for talc or other inorganic materials where the control of abrasive properties is essential.

For this application, SETLINE DSC is a really appropriate tool as it can analyze materials having low density like talc.



Sample:

Silica containing quartz

Mass:

ca 15 mg

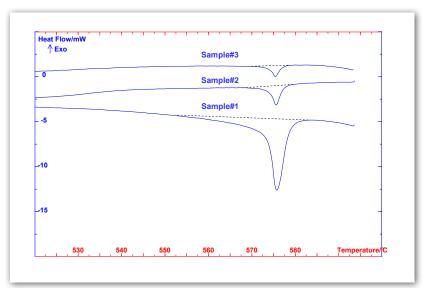
Crucible:

aluminium

Heating mode: 5 K/min

A sample containing 100% of quartz (#1), and different samples (#2 and 3) with unknown

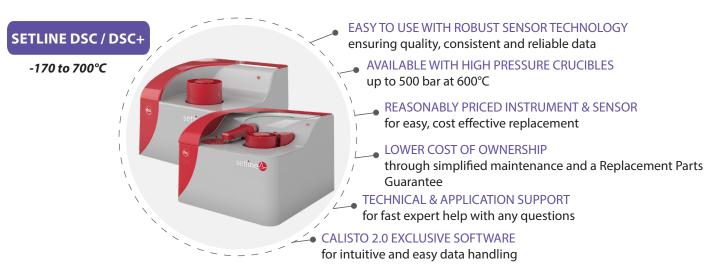
content of quartz were analyzed.



RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

When heated, a transition at 573°C was observed it corresponds to the transition of SiO2 from the a to b forms. By integration of the corresponding peak, the heat of transition can be measured. Then, using the sample#1 as a standard it is possible to determine the quartz contents of sample #2 (= 45%) and sample #3 (= 11%). This method enables to determine the quartz content of a material down to a few percents.

INSTRUMENT



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